

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM

August 26th, 2008 Conference Call

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Robin Gumpert

Notes: Erin Halton

The following notes are a summary of issues that are intended to point out future actions or issues that may need further discussion at upcoming meetings. These notes are not intended to be the “record” of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

Lower Snake Low Flow Operations / SOR #2008-6

Paul Wagner, Chair of the Salmon Managers, referred TMT to SOR #2008-6, posted as a link to the TMT agenda; the SOR signatories were NOAA, ID, OR, WA, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, CRITFC and the Nez Perce Tribe. Wagner reported that a fixed rate of 11 kcfs at Little Goose for as long as needed to resolve the instability between pools on the Lower Snake River was considered and agreed to during the FPAC conference call on 8/26. He noted the SOR's request for close monitoring for any impacts on adult passage associated with exceeding 30% spill. Cathy Hlebechuk, COE, said the Action Agencies had reviewed the SOR and would pursue the operation if there was regional consensus. The following parties provided input during the call:

- MT: support the SOR
- BPA: support the SOR
- BOR: support the SOR
- USFWS: support the SOR, could be added to the list of signatories.

Action/Next Steps:

- The COE and CRITFC planned to coordinate with all other Columbia River tribes via email and phone.
- The COE agreed to send out an email to TMT once regional coordination is complete; if there is consensus, the email will inform TMT of the timing for implementation of the SOR.
- An update on Lower Snake River Operations will be on the agenda for the 8/27 TMT meeting.

8/27/08 TMT Face to Face Meeting

Agenda items will include:

- Finalize notes/minutes
- Autumn Treaty Fishing SOR
- Dworshak Update
- Libby Operations Update
- Lower Snake River Operations
- Timing for end of MOP
- Operations Review

**Columbia River Regional Forum
Technical Management Team Conference Call
Aug. 26, 2008**

1. Introduction

Today's conference call was chaired by Cathy Hlebechuk (COE) and facilitated by Robin Gumpert (DS Consulting), with representatives from BPA, NOAA, COE, Montana, CRITFC, Oregon, FPC, BOR, USFWS, Idaho and others attending. The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made at the meeting. Anyone with questions or comments about these notes should provide them to the TMT chair or bring them to the next meeting.

2. Spill at Little Goose Dam – SOR-2008-6

The purpose of today's unscheduled call was to address issues raised by the COE yesterday regarding the stability of pool elevations on the Snake River. Paul Wagner (NOAA) introduced SOR 2008-6, the Salmon Managers' response to the COE's request for recommendations to alleviate issues with meeting the planned operations for fish at Lower Monumental and Ice Harbor dams [*editor's note: also to alleviate issues with meeting MOP at Lower Granite tailwater*]. The SOR was signed by NOAA, NMFS, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, CRITFC, and the Nez Perce Tribe. USFWS also supports the SOR and signed it at this morning's meeting.

The SOR requests a continuous spill of 11 kcfs from Little Goose for as long as needed to stabilize spill, minimum powerhouse operations at Lower Monumental and Ice Harbor, and MOP operations at Lower Granite dam. The impacts of this operation on adult passage at Little Goose will be monitored. At present, spilling 11 kcfs may yield slightly above the 30% spill level. The SOR recommends keeping an eye on that. Wagner said.

The Action Agencies would like to pursue this SOR if consensus exists in the region, Hlebechuk said. The hope is that this action will also take care of the Lower Granite navigation issue that was also discussed on yesterday's TMT call. One caveat is that there might be incidences of having to spill more than 11 kcfs in order to stay within MOP operations. The Salmon Managers expressed a preference for that to happen, if necessary, during nighttime hours. Inflows are not expected to drop further, but if they do, it might be necessary to spill below 11 kcfs, Bill Barry (BPA) said. The Salmon Managers expressed a preference for that to happen, if necessary, during daytime hours.

The COE and CRITFC will work together on contacting the tribes to get their concurrence on SOR 2008-6. None of the TMT members present on today's call objected to this operation. That included concurrence from **Montana**,

CRITFC, BPA, BOR and USFWS; Dave Wills asked that it be added to the list of support names on the SOR. The operation will be revisited at tomorrow's regularly scheduled TMT meeting. This summary prepared by consultant and writer Pat Vivian.

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Affiliation</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Tony Norris | BPA |
| Bill Berry | BPA |
| Paul Wagner | NOAA |
| Cathy Hlebechuk | COE |
| Jim Litchfield | Montana |
| Kyle Dittmer | CRITFC |
| Barry Espensen | CBB |
| Richelle Beck | DRA |
| Ron Boyce | Oregon |
| Tim Dykstra | COE Walla Walla |
| Dave Benner | FPC |
| John Roache | BOR |
| Dave Wills | USFWS |
| Russ Kiefer | Idaho |